

Section 4 Integrated Impact Assessment

Summary Report Template

Each of the numbered sections below must be completed

Interim report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Final report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(Tick as appropriate)
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1. Title of proposal
Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan

2. What will change as a result of this proposal?

The draft RRTP was submitted to the Scottish Government on 31 December 2018. Following on from this the City of Edinburgh Council made a commitment to the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee to engage with stakeholders and service users. This engagement informed the second iteration of the RRTP.

The rapid rehousing approach seeks to reduce the amount of time that homeless people spend in temporary accommodation, and to ensure homeless households have access to settled, mainstream housing as quickly as possible. This supports the vision set out by the Council's Homelessness Task Force.

The Scottish Government asked all local authorities to submit a costed RRTP by the end of 2018, showing how the rapid rehousing approach would be implemented over five years.

The Scottish Government set aside funding from the Ending Homelessness Together Fund to support implementation of RRTPs across Scotland and the Council has requested funding to support implementation of rapid rehousing in Edinburgh. Edinburgh's RRTP also sets out the need for additional grant funding over five years to support delivery of much needed affordable housing. The lack of affordable homes to meet housing need in Edinburgh, including for homeless households, is the main barrier to implementation of rapid rehousing, particularly within a five year timescale.

The IIA was updated throughout the development of the second iteration of the RRTP which was agreed by Housing, Homelessness & Fair Work Committee on 18 September 2020, after which it was submitted to the Scottish Government. This iteration of the RRTP focuses on the following four strategic objectives:

- Plans for preventing homelessness in the first place focusing on early intervention;

- transforming temporary accommodation, including reducing the amount of unsuitable accommodation over the next 5 years, and ensuring that where temporary accommodation is required it meets the needs of the household;
- supporting people to access settled accommodation as quickly as possible by increasing access to settled housing options such as mid-market rent and continuing to allocate a high proportion of social rented homes to homeless households;
- reducing the number of people rough sleeping in the city by continuing to develop rapid access accommodation and working with partners to build on the positive partnership working during COVID-19 to deliver an alternative to the care shelters.

It was agreed that annual updates on actions would be presented to Committee and that the IIA would be reviewed and updated as necessary at this point. This IIA has been reviewed and updated in advance of the RRTP Annual Update on Actions being presented to Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee on 4 August 2022. Should Committee agree the update the report and this IIA will be submitted to Scottish Government. A further update will be completed next summer.

3. Briefly describe public involvement in this proposal to date and planned

Discussions on the RRTP have taken place with housing association partners and third sector partners who provide accommodation and support. There are existing partner forums at which these discussions take place e.g. Homelessness Forum, Edinburgh Affordable Housing Partnership and EdIndex Partnership.

More broadly, the Council's Homelessness Service engages with service providers and users to inform its Homelessness Prevention Commissioning Plan and engaged with service users to inform the work of the Homelessness Task Force e.g. on improving facilities in temporary accommodation.

To inform the second iteration of the RRTP an engagement plan has been produced and was presented to the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee in October 2019. Broadly engagement focused on the following:

- A Stakeholder consultation event took place on 9 October 2019 whereby 45 people representing 28 different organisations including RSL, third sector homeless providers, Scottish Government and internal colleagues attended. Key themes included were affordability, support for housing options such as long term supported accommodation for people with the most complex needs and a need to increase preventative work such as earlier identification of people who may be at risk of homelessness and key transition points such as leaving prison or hospitals.
- Consultation with service users, in particular people currently living in temporary accommodation. Over 30 people were consulted and feedback

identified social housing, housing first and long term supported accommodation as the most likely housing options they would consider. Support with finances / benefits and attending appointments are key areas of support identified by service users.

- A series of briefings whereby staff were able to input into the discussion around rapid rehousing took place, mainly via the RRTP lead officer attending team meetings.
- Communication via the Partnership & Planning newsletter, this is bi-monthly and is circulated round internal and external partners.
- Presentations at a variety of different external forums including: SHAPE, EdIndex Board and the EAHP.
- Presentations at the internal Homeless Strategy Programme Board.
- Whilst the second stakeholder consultation event was cancelled due to COVID -19 stakeholders were offered the opportunity to feedback on the topics which were proposed to be discussed via email.

Regular updates with stakeholders continue following the agreement of the second iteration of the RRTP. This has included:

- Presentations at internal staff team meetings and Leadership Teams and Homelessness Budget Board
- External presentations at EAHP and a session with SHAPE to determine how the third sector and Council can work together to deliver Rapid Rehousing in Edinburgh
- Homelessness Prevention Working Group established to take forward preventative activity identified in RRTP with cross Council and third sector representation via SHAPE.
- Service user consultation will continue via established forums already in place in the third sector via SHAPE.

4. Is the proposal considered strategic under the [Fairer Scotland Duty](#)?

No

5. Date of IIA

Updated May - June 2022.

6. Who was present at the IIA? Identify facilitator, Lead Officer, report writer and any partnership representative present and main stakeholder (e.g. NHS, Council)

Name	Job Title	Date of IIA training
Anna Hamilton	RRTP Lead Officer, facilitator and Report writer.	28/10/2021

Jill Thomson	Interim Homelessness & Housing Support Senior Manager, Council	
Debbie Herbertson	Homelessness Services Manager, Council	

7. Evidence available at the time of the IIA

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
Data on populations in need	Y – Internal Homelessness data	Data on households presenting as homeless, numbers in temporary accommodation and case lengths; all rising. RRTP second iteration and supporting Toolkit contain data on homelessness – including HL1 statistics, which evidence demand and pressure on services and accommodation.
Data on service uptake/access	Y- Internal Homelessness Data	Numbers of households assessed as homeless increased last year and the number and percentage of households taking up temporary accommodation. People remain in temporary accommodation longer and length of time homeless is also increasing. Internal homelessness statistics accessed via HIS and ECCO.
Data on socio-economic disadvantage e.g. low income, low wealth, material deprivation, area deprivation.	Y- Internal Homelessness Data	Homeless households tend to have low incomes with only around 15% being in full time employment, as highlighted in an earlier iteration of RRTP IIA
Data on equality outcomes	No	Equality outcomes are submitted on an annual basis by commissioned services. Equality data is also gathered as part of a homeless assessment. Data can be provided on the basis of Sex, Race and Age of those effected
Research/literature evidence	Yes – external research papers and Council's RRTP	HARSAG recommendations, Scottish Government Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan and CEC's Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan all evidence the need to reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation and prevent

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
		<p>homelessness wherever possible. Scottish Government Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan (Nov 2018) – overview of homelessness in Scotland and ambitions of Scottish Government to prevent and end homelessness, including role and duties of local authorities in helping to achieve this. Social Bite/Heriot Watt University report on Temporary Accommodation in Scotland (Nov 2018) highlights pressures on temporary accommodation in Edinburgh. The Preventing Homelessness in Scotland recommendation from the Prevention Review Group and the subsequent joint Scottish Government and CoSLA Prevention Duty consultation paper, identified the ways in which prevention of homelessness as a legal duty may be achieved and defines homelessness prevention as a shared responsibility across public bodies. The Youth homelessness Prevention Pathway published by A Way Home Scotland lays out a pathway to ending youth homelessness and identifies issues that more commonly arise for young people. The Scottish Government recently consulted on “A New Deal for Tenants” draft rental strategy. Considers potential establishment of a new housing standard, in support of good outcomes for tenants.</p>
Public/patient/client experience information	Yes – RRTP	Consultation informed the RRTP. Not at the time of the first draft of the RRTP but service user consultation and consultation with key stakeholders has taken place to inform the second iteration.
Evidence of inclusive engagement of people who use the service	Yes – Council RRTP and Scottish Government	Consultation with people with lived experience informed the RRTP and development of HARSAG and Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan.

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
and involvement findings	Consultation into Unsuitable Accommodation Order.	Service user engagement informed work of the Housing Task Force e.g. on investment and facilities in shared housing, delivered as direct replacement for traditional B&B accommodation.
Evidence of unmet need		<p>RRTP provides evidence of pressures in Edinburgh due to lack of settled accommodation for people to move to. Supporting evidence comes from Housing Need and Demand Assessment 2.</p> <p>The RRTP and annual updates sets out position relating to number of homeless households to whom the Council had a duty to find a settled home in 2017/18 vs. number of social rented homes available each year. This highlights lack of social rented homes to meet all needs</p> <p>The RRTP and updates also provides information on the number of people in temporary accommodation and the increase in length of stay in temporary accommodation.</p>
Good practice guidelines		<p>Scottish Government – Ending Homelessness Together – High Action Plan</p> <p>City Housing Strategy</p> <p>Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan</p> <p>Scottish Government Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan Guidance (2018)</p> <p>In draft – Temporary Accommodation Standards Framework</p>
Carbon emissions generated/reduced data		N/A
Environmental data		N/A
Risk from cumulative impacts		N/A
Other (please specify)		N/A
Additional evidence required		N/A

8. In summary, what impacts were identified and which groups will they affect?

Equality, Health and Wellbeing and Human Rights	Affected populations
<p>Positive –</p> <p>Advance equality of opportunity e.g. improve access / quality of services - the RRTP will improve access to housing for homeless households in the PRS and social housing. The RRTP aims to increase access to the PRS by developing a dedicated team of housing officers to assist with this. It will also increase access to social housing for homeless households by increasing the volume of properties being let to them by RSL's and the Council.</p> <p>The care leavers housing protocol's aim is to avoid care leavers having to go through the homeless route to secure accommodation, instead they will be supported and awarded Exceptional Housing Need priority, which will give them a reasonable preference when bidding for social rented accommodation.</p> <p>The updated pathways for people leaving prison or hospital will improve access to homelessness services and other supports.</p> <p>The Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) will seek to improve access to services for those hard to reach who would not normally engage with services. Vulnerable children and adults will be impacted positively through new and additional resource to support them. The team will support vulnerable adults and children to prevent homelessness and offer joined up support to do so.</p> <p>Enable people to have more control of their social/work environment - –through the RRTP innovative models of temporary accommodation will be developed including increasing the number of temporary furnished flats. This will enable people to have more control over their social environment as there will be no restrictions on visitors and their work environment as there will be no restrictions placed on when a person can come and go from the property.</p>	<p>Homeless households / households at risk of homelessness People from the protected characteristics of age, sex, race</p> <p>Those leaving care settings (including children and young people(protected characteristic of age) and those with illness – protected characteristic of disability)</p> <p>Those involved in the criminal justice system Homeless Households</p> <p>Homeless Households Vulnerable families Vulnerable due to age</p> <p>Homeless Households Vulnerable families People impacted due to Poverty</p>

<p>Vulnerable children and adults will be impacted positively through new and additional resource to support them. In particular the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) service will support vulnerable adults and children to prevent homelessness and offer joined up support to do so. The DA Housing Policy also promotes supporting children into sustainable housing. Specific provision for women fleeing DA including provision for BAME women</p> <p>Promote participation, inclusion, dignity and control over decisions - service user consultation has been completed as part of the RRTP which will allow people who are or who have been affected by homelessness to participate in developing the final version of the RRTP. The RRTP will increase dignity and control over decisions as homeless households may have more say on their housing option if increased supply is achieved through the RRTP.</p> <p>Build family support networks, resilience and community capacity - The RRTP aims to increase accommodation options, which will include supported accommodation for those who require it and mainstream properties in the community for those who do not require on-site support.</p> <p>Preventative activity seeking to support people to remain in their own home will allow them to build family support networks, resilience and community capacity.</p> <p>Protect vulnerable children and adults - The RRTP aims to eliminate the use of unsuitable accommodation such as bed and breakfast accommodation for vulnerable children and adults.</p> <p>Promote healthier lifestyles –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • diet and nutrition. The RRTP aims to provide a mainstream property for all which will result in people being able to cook for themselves which will have a positive impact on diet and nutrition. • substance misuse. Housing First will be developed as part of the RRTP. This may positively impact on those with substance misuse issues as people will be offered support in this area as part of any housing first package. The RRTP is also working to develop a new long term 	<p>People who are vulnerable due to age Vulnerable families</p> <p>Women who experience abuse BAME women and children</p> <p>Homeless households People who are vulnerable due to poverty and inequality</p> <p>Homeless households Vulnerable families</p> <p>Homeless households Vulnerable families</p> <p>Homeless households Vulnerable families Vulnerable due to age</p> <p>Homeless households Poverty & Inequality</p> <p>Homeless households Poverty and Inequality</p>
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<p>supported accommodation service for people with alcohol misuse issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> lifeskills. As part of the development of the RRTP the volume of housing support (including support with lifeskills) will be reviewed to ensure that there is enough support available as the number of mainstream tenancies increases. <p>Prevention & Partnership Housing Officer position created to support Council staff and external partners to identify opportunities to prevent homelessness and how to access services if homelessness cannot be prevented.</p> <p>Developing a gap site using modular construction for temporary accommodation.</p> <p>Negative Reduce differences in status between different groups of people - Other vulnerable groups may be adversely impacted as more lets may go to homeless households.</p> <p>Foster good relations within and between people with protected characteristics - the RRTP may foster negative relations between people with protected characteristics due to the volume of social housing lets being allocated to this group.</p>	<p>Homeless households Poverty and Inequality People who require support People who required support People experiencing poverty and inequality</p> <p>Homeless households</p> <p>Homeless households</p> <p>This includes but is not limited to people who are vulnerable due to Age, Sex, Race and Disability</p> <p>Other people with protected characteristics.</p>
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<p>Environment and Sustainability including climate change emissions and impacts</p> <p>Positive N/A</p> <p>Negative</p>	<p>Affected populations</p> <p>Homeless households</p>
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<p>Economic including socio-economic disadvantage</p> <p>Positive -</p> <p>.</p> <p>Maximise income and /or reduce income inequality - income maximisation will be explored through the RRTP for example by the employing of a financial inclusion officer based in the PRS team. An Income Maximisation Development Officer has also been employed to support internal and external agencies working with homeless households by delivering training and advice on income maximisation matters.</p> <p>The RRTP will also have a positive impact on income from employment as people accessing the HP & HOT team will be provided with information on employability services, increasing access to jobs and helping young people into positive destinations.</p> <p>The RRTP will look to reduce income inequality via developing affordable housing options for homeless households.</p> <p>The MDT will assist with maximising income and reduce income inequality.</p> <p>The DA Housing Policy may have a positive impact on people at risk of falling into poverty, as victims of DA are assisted with accessing housing, income maximisation/benefits etc.</p> <p>If victims of DA are supported to move to permanent addresses, this could improve their chances of accessing education, employment etc.</p> <p>Negative</p>	<p>Affected populations</p> <p>Homeless households People affected by Poverty and Inequality</p> <p>Homeless households Young people</p> <p>Homeless households All protected characteristics</p> <p>Homeless households Vulnerable families People affected by Poverty and Inequality</p> <p>Women affected by Domestic abuse</p> <p>Women affected by Domestic abuse Women who experience discrimination on the basis of Sex</p>

9. Is any part of this policy/ service to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors and if so how will equality, human rights including children’s rights, environmental and sustainability issues be addressed?

Some services will be commissioned via the RRTP that will be provided by the third sector. They will be required to have up to date equality policies and will be monitored

to ensure that they are open to all protected characteristics or when not have the correct exemptions in law (e.g. single sex services)

- 10. Consider how you will communicate information about this policy/ service change to children and young people and those affected by sensory impairment, speech impairment, low level literacy or numeracy, learning difficulties or English as a second language? Please provide a summary of the communications plan.**

Information will be made available via our website and communication will be available in all relevant formats.

- 11. Is the policy likely to result in significant environmental effects, either positive or negative?** If yes, it is likely that a [Strategic Environmental Assessment](#) (SEA) will be required and the impacts identified in the IIA should be included in this.

No

12. Additional Information and Evidence Required

If further evidence is required, please note how it will be gathered. If appropriate, mark this report as interim and submit updated final report once further evidence has been gathered.

No

- 13. Specific to this IIA only, what recommended actions have been, or will be, undertaken and by when? (these should be drawn from 7 – 11 above) Please complete:**

Specific actions (as a result of the IIA which may include financial implications, mitigating actions and risks of cumulative impacts)	Who will take them forward (name and job title)	Deadline for progressing	Review date
Monitoring of services provided under RRTP to ensure they conform to appropriate policies and standards	Commissioning officer from Partnership and Planning Team reporting to RRTP lead officer	Annually	June 2023

14. Are there any negative impacts in section 8 for which there are no identified mitigating actions?

No

15. How will you monitor how this proposal affects different groups, including people with protected characteristics?

IIA will be updated annually as part of the RRTP update to Committee and Scottish Government.

Services commissioned as part of the RRTP will be monitored to ensure no protected characteristic is negatively affected, except in services where there are exemptions in place.

16. Sign off by Head of Service

Name Nicky Brown

Date 27 July 2022

17. Publication

Completed and signed IIAs should be sent to strategyandbusinessplanning@edinburgh.gov.uk to be published on the IIA directory on the Council website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/impactassessments